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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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A scheduler handles the various tasks to be performed on a wafer processing system as operations, with each operation having a predefined data structure.

Operations that meet a set of requirements are added to an operation list. In the operation list, operations meeting another set of requirements are switched to the active state. Each active operation in the operation list is scheduled to run on the wafer processing system. Using structured operations to perform various tasks improves the extensibility and maintainability of the present scheduler. Further, the present scheduler can schedule several compatible operations at the same time by going through each operation in the operation list, and running those that are in the active state.